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Thanikkudam Scheme.

85. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state in what stage the Thanikkudam project now is, and what work has been done with reference to it in the year 1103?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 14.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It was said that the preliminary investigation is over. Will the Government be prepared to publish anything regarding the preliminary investigation? The answer given to question No. 14 was preliminary investigation is over and some detailed investigation is going on.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I think the result of the preliminary investigation was stated in the House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not think anything was stated to my knowledge. My mind is blank regarding that.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—What is the particular information you want?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Regarding the electrical possibilities.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I do not think there are any electrical possibilities. The reservoir is intended simply for storage of water and we are to use the water either for *kole* lands or for some other purpose. I wanted to find out from the owners of the *kole* lands whether they are prepared to pay sufficient money per annum in return for the water. If they ensure us such payment we can work the whole scheme. The whole water will be wanted for the *kole* lands and *kole* lands alone. It is hardly enough for them. If on the other hand we find that the *kole* land people are unwilling to pay or the water is insufficient, we can think of the water supply to Anappara and Trichur. So that, we have got several alternatives, and the delay is to settle how to use the water. But there is no hope of possible electrical development there.

Thalippara Bridge.

86. Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform this Council;—

(a) whether the construction of a bridge in Thalippara (താലിപ്പറ) was at any time sanctioned by the Government;

(b) if so, when and what, if any, was the amount sanctioned for the same ;

(c) why was the work not taken up till now ;

(d) is not the Government aware of the very great inconvenience that the people of the place are put to owing to the absence of a bridge there ?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—(a) No.

(b) Vide answer to sub-division (a).

(c) For want of funds and because it was not urgent.

(d) Government consider that a bridge is desirable.

Distillery for the manufacture of Alcohol.

87. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) is there any Distillery in the State for the manufacture of Alcohol ;

(b) if so, to whom does the Distillery and machinery belong ;

(c) is it run by the State or through a private agency ;

(d) if the latter, whether the present agent is a Cochinite or a foreigner ;

(e) what are the terms on which the contract has been given ;

(f) what does it cost the Government per gallon of alcohol ;

(g) has the Government any control either in the appointment or management of the staff of the Distillery ;

(h) of the present staff how many are Cochinites and how many are not ;

(i) is the Government aware that the Distillery in Travancore is directly under the Government management ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—(a) There is a Distillery for the manufacture of arrack. Alcohol (90% and 70% Pure Rectified spirits) is also manufactured there.

(b) The Government.

(c) A contractor manufactures and supplies the liquor.

(d) The present contractor is not a Cochinite but possesses landed properties in the State.

(e) The terms are.—

(1) that he should supply country spirits for the whole State for the year ending Karkadagam 1103 subject to the rates and conditions contained in the Diwan's Notification, Revenue Department, (Separate Revenue) dated 19th March 1926 (Copy placed on the Council Table) and Pure Rectified spirits at proportionate rates or such higher rates as may be fixed by the Diwan ;

(2) that he should manufacture arrack from the best jaggery ;